Application No. 10,774,859 Attorney Docket No 2004B008 Preliminary Amendment

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REMARKS

Claims 1, 6, 21, 25, 37, 38, 49, 63 and 64 – 67 are amended or added by this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 2 and 39 have been canceled. -

Claims 1 and 38 have been amended to include certain of the elements of now canceled claims 2 and 39, respectively. Claim 6 has been modified according to the embodiment described in paragraph 0067 of the specification. Claim 25 is amended for correction of a clerical error. Claims 21, 37, 49, and 63 are amended to parallel the claim language used in claims 20, 36, 48, and 62, respectively. Newly added claims 64 – 67 are based on a preferred embodiment such as that described in paragraphs 0026, 0064, or 0089 of the specification.

As demonstrated above, the amendments and newly added claims are supported by the specification as filed, with no new matter being added. Furthermore, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants request early and favorable consideration on the merits in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated, since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned. If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1712 (Docket #: 2004B008).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 20 January 2005

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